



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

NEWS RELEASE

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Governor Dalrymple Proclaims *School Nurse Day* in North Dakota

BISMARCK, N.D. – Governor Jack Dalrymple has proclaimed Wednesday, May 9, 2012, as *School Nurse Day* in North Dakota.

School Nurse Day is a time to celebrate the nursing profession and the specialty of school nursing. This day recognizes the contributions that school nurses make every day to improve the health and success of our children. This year's theme, "Advocacy, Access, Achievement: Making the Connection," is reflective of the overall positive impact school nurses have on priority one – the health and well-being of students. It's well known and recognized that healthy children learn better, and school nurses help to remove barriers to academic success.

"School nurses reduce absenteeism by caring for students in school and assist in minimizing health-related barriers to success," said Becky Bailey, State School Nurse Consultant for the North Dakota Department of Health. "They are dedicated health professionals who make a significant impact on the health of students, staff and communities. The Department of Health encourages schools and communities to celebrate school nurses and the difference they make to improve the health and success of students."

School nurses provide a non-negotiable value for our children, keeping them healthy in school and ready to learn. School nurses can help teachers focus on teaching success, and help parents know their child will be safe at school. School nurses bring the nursing assessment skills to manage potentially emergent situations as well as provide daily care for students with chronic conditions, medically complex conditions and other needs requiring daily care in school.

For more information, contact Becky Bailey, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.328.4526.

Please note: Proclamation follows.

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Visit the health department home page at www.ndhealth.gov.

PROCLAMATION
SCHOOL NURSE DAY
May 9, 2012

WHEREAS, children are North Dakota's most valuable resource and will become the future leaders of our communities, businesses and state; and

WHEREAS, by investing in them today, we are helping ensure our world for tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, all students have a right to have their health needs safely met while in the school setting; and

WHEREAS, school nurses are professional nurses that advance the well-being, health, academic success and life-long achievements of all students by providing a critical safety net; and

WHEREAS, school nurses act as a liaison to the school community, families and health care providers on behalf of children's health; and

WHEREAS, school nurses understand the link between health and learning and are in a position to make a positive difference for children every day.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim May 9, 2012, **SCHOOL NURSE DAY** in the state of North Dakota.

Jack Dalrymple
Governor

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